GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2757
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2007
VIOLATION OF CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 1986 BY PAY CHANNELS
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Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether T.V. pay channels are charging the costs, both for entertainment and for advertisements from consumers in the country;

(b) if so, whether pay channels are earning both from advertisements and from the consumers in violation of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to remove this disparity?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. DASMUNSI)

(a) & (b): The business model of pay TV channels is based mainly on revenues carried from two streams (i) subscriptions (ii) advertisement. Based on the earnings expected from both the streams the subscription charges for pay channels are fixed subject to tariff orders issued by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India from time to time. As such there is no violation of Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

(c): Question does not arise.